

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the present application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 8 is allowed and claims 11 and 15 contain allowable subject matter. However, claims 9, 10, 12-14, and 16-18 are now rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by newly cited Tony (U. S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0002912). Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over newly cited Callaway, Jr. (U. S. Patent No. 6,275,500) in view of Van Valkenburg (U. S. Patent No. 6,775,258).

§102(e) Rejections (Tony) - Claims 9, 10, 12-14, and 16-18

With respect to independent claim 9, Applicants amend this claim, as indicated herein, for clarification purposes, and submit that Tony does not disclose or suggest at least, “generating a packet including the address of the destination slave device as a destination address and the address of the slave device as a source address,” as recited in amended claim 9. The Examiner cites numbered paragraph 85 of Tony as allegedly teaching the above-quoted feature. However, Applicants submit that this paragraph and other portions of Tony do not teach this specific limitation of claim 9. That is, Tony does not disclose or suggest a slave device generating a packet including 1) the address of the destination slave device as a destination address AND 2) the address of the slave device as a source device. Instead, Tony discloses that a first slave can obtain an address of a second slave from a master, and can insert it in a header field of the Baseband packets and transmit the packets to the master. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 9 would not have been anticipated by or rendered obvious in view of claim 6.

Applicants submit that independent claims 13 and 17 are patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 9.¹

Applicants submit that dependent claims 10, 12, 14, 16, and 18 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

§103(a) Rejections (Callaway / Van Valkenburg) - Claims 1-7

With respect to independent claim 3, Applicants submit that neither of the applied references, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least, “wherein the controller records a source address in a payload region of the packet,” as recited in independent claim 3. However, the Examiner does not address this particular limitation in the reasons in support of the rejection. Further, Applicants submit that this particular feature is not disclosed by the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 3 is patentably distinguishable over Callaway and Van Valkenburg, either alone or in combination.

Applicants submit that dependent claim 4 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency from independent claim 3.

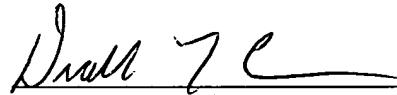
With respect to independent claims 1, 5, and 6, Applicants amend these claims, as indicated herein, and submit that neither Callaway nor Van Valkenburg, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least, “wherein the packet includes a destination address and a source address,” as recited in amended claims 1, 5, and 6. Applicants submit that dependent claims 2 and 7 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies from independent claims 1 and 6.

¹ Applicants amend claim 13 for clarification purposes also.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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